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SOUTH LAKE TAHOE MAN SENTENCED TO 46 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF SEXUALLY EXPLICIT IMAGES OF MINOR GIRLS

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that ROBERT JUDSON GIENAPP, 61, of South Lake Tahoe, California was sentenced today by United States District Judge David F. Levi in Sacramento for criminal possession of images depicting the sexual exploitation of minors. Judge Levi imposed a sentence of 46 months federal incarceration in addition to a \$100 special assessment.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the South Lake Tahoe Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who prosecuted the case, GIENAPP was arrested by federal complaint on October 12, 2006. Then, on October 25, 2006, GIENAPP was charged by federal information with the crime of possession of matters containing sexually explicit images of minors. GIENAPP pled guilty to the charges on November 2, 2006. GIENAPP used the Internet and a computer at his South Lake Tahoe residence to download, copy, and possess, sexually explicit images of minors. GIENAPP possessed between 40 and 150 images of minor female victims engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Among the images possessed by GIENAPP were depictions of female victims under the age of 12. As part of the resolution of this case, GIENAPP agreed to forfeit the computers, hard drives, equipment, and other digital storage devices used to facilitate his crime.

The successful prosecution of GIENAPP was part of "Operation Valley Predator", a three-day multi-agency operation spearheaded by the Sacramento Office of the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California as part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC). PSC is a national initiative of the U.S. Department of Justice, designed to increase federal and state prosecutions of violent sexual predators of children. The United States Attorney's Office has teamed with state and local agencies throughout the Eastern District to enhance law enforcement presence on the Internet, and to educate the public and children of safe internet use. For additional information on the PSC initiative, please go to www.projectsafechildhood.gov, or call the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California and ask to speak with the PSC coordinator.

GIENAPP was remanded into federal custody. GIENAPP will be subject to federal supervised release for eight years after completing his 46 month term of incarceration, and will be required to register as a sex offender for life.